

REMARKS

1. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the above claim amendments, antecedent basis for which is laid out in the following table. No new matter is introduced by the amendment.

<i>Claim</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>Antecedent basis</i>
1, 4-10, 13-14	When	4:20
1, 4-10, 13-14	a piece of	7:4,6
1, 9-10, 13-14	at a distance	6:24, 7:13-14,
1, 9, 13	such that upon...then, or when...then	2:23-25
4, 13, 14	substantially in the direction	9:11
5, 13, 14	cross section of variable width	9:14-16
6	a top	10:7
6	top closest to said contact face...top of...	10:6-9; Fig. 3
9, 14	between a first surface of said belt body and a second surface of said belt body	4:5-15; 7:13-17; Fig. 2

1. Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 4, 6, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kazuhiko (JP9-256865), and rejection of claims 3, 5, 13-14 under 35 USC 103(a) over Kazuhiko, and claims 7, 10-12 over Kazuhiko in view of other references. In light of the claim amendments, Applicant submits that the rejections are all overcome. The independent claims 1, 9, 10, 13, and 14 now clearly recite either "a piece of foreign matter, which is made of a different material from said predetermined material, embedded in said belt body at a distance from said first surface;" or "near said contact face and at a distance from said contact face", as clearly opposed to Kazuhiko's metal wire at the surface. Claims 1, 9, and 13 also more clearly recite that warning or noise occurs after some wear exposes the foreign matter. Moreover, other claims (like 4-6, 9, 13, 14) now more clearly recite the orientation and/or shape of the piece of foreign matter which further distinguishes the invention from Kazuhiko. Since all rejections were based on Kazuhiko, withdrawal of all rejections is respectfully requested.

FEE STATEMENT

Any fees which may be required are authorized to be charged to Assignee's deposit account number 07-0475.

In light of the forgoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration of the allowability of all claims is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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